The Beautiful Light of Haya

By Mansoor Ali Shah
لَا إِلٰهَ إِلَّا اللّٰهُ مُحَمَّدٌ رَسُولُ اللّٰهِ

Baba and Mansoor's Evening Walk

Mansoor walked beside Baba as the cool evening breeze brushed against their faces. The streetlights began to glow, and the sound of chirping birds filled the air.

Mansoor: Baba, today at school, my teacher talked about something called "Haya." She said it is very important in Islam. What does it mean?

Baba: That is a beautiful question, my dear. Haya means modesty, shyness, and self-respect. It is a part of our faith, as our beloved Prophet ﷺ said: "Faith consists of more than sixty branches, and Haya is a part of faith."

Mansoor: So, if I have Haya, does that mean I have strong faith?

Baba: Yes, my son! Haya protects our hearts and actions. It helps us be kind, speak gently, and dress modestly. It also reminds us to behave well, whether people are watching or not.

Mansoor: Oh! Like when I lower my voice when speaking to elders, or when I avoid saying mean things to my friends?

Baba: Exactly, Mansoor! And Haya also means being careful about how we dress and behave. Just like we cover our precious belongings, we should also dress respectfully and behave with dignity.

Mansoor thought for a moment as they passed a park where some children were playing.

Mansoor: Baba, is Haya only for girls?

Baba: No, my dear! Haya is for both boys and girls. The Prophet ﷺ himself was known for his great sense of Haya. He always spoke kindly, dressed properly, and treated others with respect.

Mansoor: I want to have Haya too, Baba! What can I do?

Baba: That is a wonderful intention, my son! You can start by being mindful of your words, actions, and how you dress. Always remember that Allah sees everything we do, so let Haya shine in your heart like a beautiful light.

Mansoor smiled, feeling a warm glow inside. As they walked home, he promised himself to be more mindful of his actions, knowing that Haya would bring him closer to Allah.